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fibers on the left side were reduced, but the nuclei pontia were larger on the left side; the longitudinal pontile fibers were deficient on the right, as shown by the smaller crus cerebri of this side; the left lemniscus was the smaller, and the left superior cerebellar peduncle was reduced. Other deficiencies were noted, which, however, require further study. Full discussion of the case was postponed, as the research is as yet uncompleted.

HENRY E. CRAMPTON,
Secretary.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE.

THE WASHINGTON MEMORIAL INSTITUTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE:

A curious incongruity appears in the plan for the Washington Memorial Institution as outlined in the report on 'A National University' in the current number of SCIENCE, as well as elsewhere. The first paragraph in the platform of the new institution provides that 'it will be independent of government support or control' (p. 51). Yet the seventh paragraph assumes that the institution will depend on the governmental departments (including the Smithsonian Institution, the Library of Congress, etc.) for its facilities, or in other words for the essential part of its support; and it also provides that 'students working in government laboratories or collections will be subject to the rules and regulations there prevailing,' *i. e.*, will be under governmental control. It should be pointed out that this unfortunate incongruity is much more glaring in statement than in thought; the projectors of the enterprise merely desired to emphasize the independence of the prospective institution from direct federal appropriation. Nevertheless, the incongruity has given rise to criticism in various influential quarters; it would seem, indeed, to have been one of the factors leading to the rejection of the report made by the committee of the National Educational Association.

As a matter of fact, the publications hitherto made concerning the Washington Memorial Institution have been of preliminary character, and have emanated from committees and individuals rather than from the Institution. Accordingly, criticism might well be withheld

pending the issue of official statements by the Institution itself.

W J MCGEE.

WASHINGTON, D. C.,

July 13, 1901.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF CANADA. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTE.

In the account given of the twentieth meeting of the Royal Society of Canada held in May, 1901, and published in the June 28 issue of SCIENCE, the writer inadvertently omitted to mention Professor T. Wesley Mills's paper presented to Section IV. (geological and biological sciences). The title of the paper was: 'The Anatomy and Physiology of the Brain of the Bird.' It was a continuation of a former one presented to the Society two years ago. The author outlined his plan of investigation which was somewhat extensive and which, for its execution, would require much time yet. He showed that the anatomical results would probably modify the views of conduction in the nervous centers until recently prevailing, and that the entire subject would require reconsideration in view of his own and other researches in various directions. The effects of ablation of portions of the brain on the psychic condition of birds were traced in brief outline with their general implications. This part of the subject had already been worked out by the author pretty fully, but was also being continued at the present time. Remarks were made by Professor R. Ramsay Wright, of Toronto University, by Professor E. E. Prince, Commissioner of Fisheries for Canada, Dr. F. Slater Jackson, and Dr. A. M. Mackay.

H. M. AMI.

OTTAWA, July 9, 1901.

A HORNED LIZARD AT A HIGH ALTITUDE.

ON June 30, at the head of John's Cañon, Las Vegas Range, N. M., I was somewhat surprised to find a horned lizard in the uppermost part of the Canadian Zone, above 10,000 feet (the aneroid indicated 10,500, but is not quite reliable at that altitude). The species is *Phrynosoma hernandes* (Girard), and the specimen is dark gray, beneath white mottled with gray. The top of the range is Hudsonian, and no lizards are found there.

T. D. A. COCKERELL.

E. LAS VEGAS, N. M.,

July 2, 1901.